



MAINE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

23 State House Station
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

STATE OF MAINE

The State Board of Education held a regular monthly meeting on April 14, 2010, at the Cross State Office Building, ATM Room 103, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: Chair Ann Weisleder; Vice Chair James Banks, Sr.; James Carignan; Steven Pound; Lynda Doyle; Nancy Perkins; Jeffrey Vermette; Dorothy Martin; Andrea Levinsky; and Angela Bechard (orientation).

Excused: Marilyn Temple Tardy; and Honor Wilkinson

Also present were: Valerie Seaberg, Chief of Staff; Scott Brown, AIA, School Facilities; Ann Pinnette, Construction Specialist III; Mark Cyr, Certification Team Coordinator; and Mary Becker, Secretary Associate.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair Ann Weisleder called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

REVISED AGENDA:

Added items to the agenda: Exhibit IX.C. and IX.D.
Corrections to the Chapter 13 Rulemaking
Corrections to QSCB

INTRODUCTION OF TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Dorothy "Dottie" Martin from Fort Fairfield
Angela Bechard (student) from Monmouth

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by James Carignan, seconded by Jeffrey Vermette, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the February 10, 2010 and March 10, 2010 minutes as written.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Vice Chair, James Banks, Sr.

- That he attended the Race to the Top presentation made by Commissioner Gendron and Department of Education Staff in Westbrook.

- That he attended the NASBE Legislative Conference in Washington DC, with the main topic on the Re-Authorization of ESEA. Very interesting conference and he will have more to say about the Re-Authorization as time goes on.
- That he attended the opening ceremony for the new Middle School in Westbrook.

Chair, Ann Weisleder:

- That Harry Osgood gave an update to the Certification Committee regarding Degree Granting and Teacher Preparation Program visits. Nine team visits have been completed and there is one more to go. Congratulations to all Board Members that contributed to the process.
- That she will have additional information for all members regarding 1099 tax forms in the near future.
- That she has a copy of the SBE budget to date for each member. Ann gave an explanation to the room rental cost deducted from the third quarter as the final payment for the 2009 retreat.
- That the University of Southern Maine (USM) President, Selma Botman will be attending the May Board meeting, workshop session, to present on the changes that will be taking place at the USM campus.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

James Carignan:

- No report

Steven Pound:

- That he has attended many meetings and would like to validate all the things the Board has been looking at; pathways, standards and recognition of knowledge. All other entities are looking at the same and it is very positive. The Maine Coalition, STEM Collaborative, the Military Study Group that he attends through NASBE, Advance Maine, Tri County Workforce, the Maine Development Foundation and the Department of Labor. Everyone is saying the same thing and it is a common message.

Dorothy Martin

- That she is originally from Louisiana and started out her Education Career as a 5th Grade Elementary School Teacher. She later went to work at Northwestern State University and became Director of the Regional Service Center which worked with eleven school systems. From there, she became the Director of External Affairs and Admissions at the Louisiana School for Mathematics, Science and Arts. She was there for nine years. Then she came to Maine to help with the start of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics. She was there 8 years with 4 years as Executive director. The last 6 years she has been at Loring Job Corps Center as the Career Development Director.

Jeffrey Vermette:

- That he sat in on two public hearings (not on behalf of the SBE) for budgets for two different RSUs. There is a lot going on out there and It is a very unhappy situation in this State right now. Lots of jobs and programs are being cut this year.

Andrea Levinsky:

- That she is a student representative for a Gubernatorial debate. It is currently in the planning stages. They have had two conference calls. The Debate will be on October 23, 2010 in the Augusta area, possibly at Waterville High School. They will be having a couple of training sessions for youth to get them up to date. The next step is locating a venue and a corporate sponsor.

Angela Bechard:

- That she likes to be called Angie. She plays lots of sports and her family calls her their little jock. Right now she is playing softball. She is a member of the Key Club and a couple weekends ago the group held an event called Hot Cakes for Haiti at Applebee's in Augusta. They raised a little over \$200.00.

Nancy Perkins:

- That she attended a policy meeting "Scaling Teacher and Leader Effectiveness to Promote Student Learning" in Washington DC in March. This meeting was held two days prior to the NASBE study group she participates in. She shared facts that she received at the meeting.
- That she attended the NASBE Study Group in March "Developing the 21st Century Educator".
- That she spent yesterday at Searsport High School. Got to spend the entire day at the school and time with the students.

Lynda Doyle:

- No Report

Marilyn Temple Tardy:

- No Report – (Absent)

Honor Wilkinson:

- No Report – (Absent)

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Construction Committee – James Banks, Sr.

- That he passed out a packet in reference to the authority the Board gave him to follow up on HR 3221 Modernization, and monies available in Maine. In the packet are results of letters sent out and the effort to lobby for HR 3221. He met with three Superintendents that names are listed in the packet memo. Through the reconciliation process that you might have seen during the senate and house debate over the national health care legislation, HR 3221 was brought forward but only titles one and two were brought forward. Title three was taken out of the reconciliation.

Handout: Written Report: Student Aide and Fiscal Responsibility Act, H.R. 3221 Update While I was in Washington, DC, I met with representatives from the offices of Senator Olympia Snowe and Senator Susan Collins. I also met with legislative aides in Representative Chellie Pingree's and Representative Michael Michaud's offices. All were aware of this bill and the need for its passage, especially Title III which is where the funding was for Modernization, Renovation and Repair for K-12 schools. The bill has since passed. However, the Senate, in order to cut down on costs, removed all of Title III. The provisions that passed were only Title I (Investing and Students and Families) and Title II (Student Loan Reform). I want to thank you for your support of HR 3221 and the positive impact it would have had on the school construction needs of Maine. Senator Tom Harkin's office has assured me that he is still committed to a major school construction bill and will continue to gather bi-partisan support for it. I have sent a letter to the following people thanking them for their assistance and willingness to meet with me regarding this bill. William Shuttleworth, Superintendent, RSU #1 (Bath, Phippsburg, West Bath, Woolwich), Paul Perzanoski, Superintendent, Brunswick School Department, J. Michael Wilhelm, Ph.D., Superintendent, RSU #75 (Topsham, Bowdoin, Harpswell).

Certification Committee – Nancy Perkins

- That the focus of the last Certification and Higher Education Committee meeting is items that will be taken up here today. You will see the direction the committee will be going in. There is a lot of work to be done. You can not expect to see major changes or major improvements in our system without us tweaking what is already in place. There are things that have to occur in order to have our students where we want them to be, and to have the teachers and leadership in schools prepare the way we want them to.

CONSENT AGENDA:

No items on the Consent Agenda

SPECIAL ORDERS (Important business previously designated for consideration)

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; *DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; AOS 93/JEFFERSON SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, NEW JEFFERSON PREK-8 SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Jefferson Village School will be constructed in Jefferson, Maine, and house 287 students, grades preK through grade 8. The project received Concept Approval on April 15, 2009. The subsequent referendum passed with a 72% vote in favor of the project.

The Jefferson School construction project was 14th on the 2004-2005 Rating Cycle for major capital construction projects. It was difficult to find a buildable site in Jefferson and after a lengthy search the present school site was the only option. The present school will be torn down once the new school has been built. The new school will be energy efficient, will be heated with wood, and will be sited to take advantage of natural sunlight.

The Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The basic design of the project and budget have not changed since Concept Approval, and it has met the needed criteria to move forward which will allow it to be bonded and constructed on schedule.

AOS 93/Jefferson School Department is requesting Design and Funding Approval for an elementary school qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- The Jefferson elementary proposed school construction project is eligible for school construction under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;
- The proposed project and authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and AOS 93/Jefferson School Department.
- The Jefferson School Department estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- The AOS 93/Jefferson School Department proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

Project Information

Project: Jefferson Elementary School

Superintendent: Robert Bouchard

Principal: Peter Gallace

Architect: Oak Point Associates

School(s) to be closed: Jefferson Village School

Project Budget Information

Concept Approval Date: April 15, 2009

Total Project Cost: \$18,613,494

Local Only (no State participation): \$263,106

Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$18,202,573

Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$147,815

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The Construction Committee will consider this Design and Funding Approval request at its April 5, 2010, meeting.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to AOS 93/Jefferson School Department for a new preK-8 school in Jefferson, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.**

**This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states:

“Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.”

MOVED by James Banks, Sr., seconded by Nancy Perkins, and voted seven in favor with one member abstaining (Jeffrey Vermette) to grant Design and Funding Approval to AOS 93/Jefferson School Department for a new preK-8 school in Jefferson, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.

MAJOR CAPITAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM; *DESIGN AND FUNDING APPROVAL CONSIDERATION*; RSU #1, RENOVATION/ADDITION, WOOLWICH CENTRAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT.

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Woolwich Central School will be renovated and an addition constructed on the existing site in Woolwich Maine. The renovated facility will house 375 students, grades preK through 8. The project received Concept Approval on February 11, 2009. The subsequent referendum passed with an 82% vote in favor of the project.

The existing Woolwich Central School rated number 16 on the 2004-2005 Priority List. Prior to approving the project as a preK-8 facility, a study was conducted to determine whether middle school students could be educated at Bath Middle School. It was determined that there was insufficient space in Bath. It will be necessary to temporarily house students away from the site during construction.

The Design and Funding Approval is being requested pursuant to MRSA Title 20-A, Section 15905(1).

The basic design of the project and budget have not changed since Concept Approval, and it has met the needed criteria to move forward which will allow it to be bonded and constructed on schedule.

RSU #1 is requesting Design and Funding Approval for renovation of and an addition to the existing Woolwich Central School qualifying under State statute and State Board of Education Rule, Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, and

- RSU #1 Woolwich proposed school construction project is eligible for school construction under MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 609;

- The proposed project and authorized method of financing are in the best interest of the State of Maine and RSU #1.
- RSU #1 Woolwich estimated capital outlay expenditures are reasonable; and
- RSU #1 Woolwich proposed project is in compliance with MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 301, as it relates to special education facilities.

Project Information

Project: Woolwich Central School – Renovation/Addition
 Superintendent: William Shuttleworth
 Principal: Thomas Soule
 Architect: Rick Malm, Lewis & Malm Architects
 School(s) to be closed: None

Project Budget Information

Concept Approval Date: February 11, 2009
 Total Project Cost: \$18,958,454
 Local Only (no State participation): \$566,504
 Approved for State/Local Debt Service Subsidy: \$18,238,609
 Anticipated Maine High Performance Schools Energy Grant: \$153,341

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: The Construction Committee will consider this Design and Funding Approval request at its April 5, 2010, meeting.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Commissioner recommends that the State Board of Education grant Design and Funding Approval to RSU #1 Woolwich for renovation of/addition to the Woolwich Central School in Woolwich, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented.**

**This approval constitutes Design & Funding Approval. Final Funding Approval may be subject to adjustment under Section 10, Subsection 1, of the State Board of Education Rules for School Construction Projects, which states:

“Final Funding Approval by the Commissioner establishes the Project Budget and takes place after construction bids have been received. At that time, the Commissioner may reduce the budget to finance the project, thus providing additional funds for other projects.”

MOVED by James Banks, Sr., seconded by Jeffrey Vermette, and unanimously voted by those present to grant Design and Funding Approval to RSU #1 Woolwich for renovation of/addition to the Woolwich Central School in Woolwich, Maine, as a Major Capital School Construction Project and approve the design and funding budget as presented

CONSIDERATION OF THE REVIEW TEAM REPORT CONCERNING THE REQUEST FROM THE GREAT BAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LOCATED IN PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE, FOR AUTHORIZATION TO OFFER ITS ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN GENERAL STUDIES DEGREE IN MAINE AT THE PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD.

Background: 20-A MRSA, Chapter 409 provides that the State Board of Education may approve an application from a postsecondary educational institution located outside the State of Maine to offer within the state courses or programs for academic credit. Officials from Great Bay Community College (GBCC), located in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, have made application to offer, in the State of Maine, the Associate of Science in General Studies. Specifically, GBCC seeks to offer coursework leading to the Associate of Science in General Studies within facilities located on the premises of the Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard (PNSY) in Kittery.

GBCC is duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New Hampshire and is one of seven colleges that comprise the Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH). Formerly known as the New Hampshire Community Technical College – Stratham, GBCC is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.

GBCC has been collaborating with York County Community College (YCCC) and the PNSY to deliver non-credit courses on-site for the PNSY apprenticeship program. This program is expanding to include credit courses leading to an Associate Degree for PNSY employees. To this end, YCCC and GBCC continue to work collaboratively with the PNSY to each offer its respective degree programs. PNSY students will have the opportunity to matriculate into either GBCC's degree program or YCCC's degree program.

The GBCC application was reviewed in accordance with rules established by the State Board and evaluated through the use of standards adopted by the Board. The Board approved Review Team met in the PNSY training facilities on February 3, 2010 with GBCC and PNSY representatives. Following this visit the Team compiled its report of findings which was distributed during the Board's March 10, 2010 meeting.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board of Education accept the Review Team's report of findings and approve the request from the Great Bay Community College to offer its Associate of Science in General Studies degree in Maine at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The period for approval would be from winter 2010 to winter 2013.

MOVED by Jeffrey Vermette, seconded by Lynda Doyle, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the Review Team's report of findings and approve the request from the Great Bay Community College to offer its Associate of Science in General Studies degree in Maine at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The period for approval would be from winter 2010 to winter 2013.

Note: Lynda Doyle left the meeting at 2:57 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

FEDERAL QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND PROGRAM

STATEMENT OF FACT: The Department of Education coordinates the Federal Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program. QSCBs are bonds issued by state or local governments which the Federal government subsidizes by providing tax credits to bondholders or direct payment interest subsidies to issuers. Bond proceeds can be used

for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of public school facilities. Maine has received a 2010 QSCB allocation of \$41,368,000 available for allocation to school units.

Seven school administrative units submitted QSCB applications to the Department requesting bonding authority. The Department has completed its review of the applications and verified that the school units on the accompanying lists and their proposed projects meet the criteria of using bond proceeds for construction, rehabilitation, or repair of a public school facility or for acquisition of land on which such a facility is to be constructed.

CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its meeting on April 5, the Construction Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the State Board of Education approve the QSCB applications for projects in Lisbon, York, RSU 17/SAD 17, RSU 18, and RSU 60/SAD 60, and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list “2010 QSCB Recommended Approvals.” The total recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2010 is \$9,799,100.00.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION: The Department of Education recommends that the State Board of Education approve the QSCB applications for projects in Lisbon, York, RSU 17/SAD 17, RSU 18, and RSU 60/SAD 60 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list “2010 QSCB Recommended Approvals.” The total recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2010 is \$9,799,100.00.

MOVED by James Banks, Sr., seconded by James Carignan, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the QSCB applications for projects in Lisbon, York, RSU 17/SAD 17, RSU 18, and RSU 60/SAD 60 and authorize issuance of QSCBs by these school units for up to the amounts shown on the accompanying list “2010 QSCB Recommended Approvals.” The total recommended QSCB authorization amount for 2010 is \$9,799,100.00.

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION OF THE CERTIFICATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO PROCEED WITH RULEMAKING OF CHAPTER 13, QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS OF TEACHERS, EDUCATIONAL SPECIALISTS AND ADMINISTRATORS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT (APA).

BACKGROUND: The proposed changes to Chapter 13 stem from the regular revision (regeneration) process employed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). Each Praxis exam undergoes regeneration every five years. ETS conducts a multi-state standard setting study designed to assemble two separate groups of current practitioners who work for three days to review the validity and reliability of the test being regenerated. The end result is a recommended cut off score that is deemed appropriate for the just qualified candidate (JQC). Several of the tests required by the Maine Department of Education were recently regenerated, so our current Chapter 13 must be updated to reflect these changes.

Proposed changes in Chapter 13 include new test codes, recommended cut off scores, and language to allow old tests no longer being administered to be used for up to five years after which time only the new tests will be accepted. Another change includes

deleting test information for Bilingual Education, which is no longer available as an endorsement in Maine.

*Applicants for a #670 Family and Consumer Science may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0120 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0121 until 8-31-14. As of 9-1-14, all applicants must meet a passing score on test # 0121.

*Applicants for #071 Library/Media Specialist may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0310 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0311 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test # 0311.

* Applicants for #420 French may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0173 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0174 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test #0174.

* Applicants for #430 German may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0181 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0183 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test #0183.

* Applicants for #440 Spanish may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0191 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0195 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test #0195.

* Applicants for #640 Business Educations may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0100 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0101 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test #0101.

* Applicants for #282 Teacher Disabled Children (K-8, 7-12) may meet a passing score on either PRAXIS II Test Code 0353 or PRAXIS II Test Code 0354 until 8-31-15. As of 9-1-15, all applicants must meet a passing score on test #0354.

5.6 Qualifying Scores

The qualifying score on the School Leaders Licensure Assessment (code #1011*) for individuals seeking an administrator certificate other than a superintendent or assistant superintendent certificate is ~~168~~ 163.

* Applicants may meet a passing score on either Test Code #1010 (score-168) or Test Code #1011 (score 163) until 8-31-14. As of 9-1-14, all applicants must meet a passing score on test code #1011 (score 163).

TIMELINE:

File with the Secretary of State's Office – April 16, 2010

Posting – April 28, 2010

Public Hearing – May 17, 2010

Deadline for Comments – May 27, 2010

Deadline for Response to Comments – June 2, 2010

Final Adoption – June 9, 2010

RECOMMENDATION: The State Board of Education's Certification and Higher Education Committee recommends that the State Board of Education initiate rulemaking to allow the proposed amendments listed above to be made to Chapter 13 in accordance

with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

MOVED by Jeffrey Vermette, seconded by Nancy Perkins, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the State Board of Education initiate rulemaking to allow the proposed amendments listed above to be made to Chapter 13 in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (APA).

Note: The Board members attending the public hearing for Chapter 13 will be Ann Weisleder, Nancy Perkins and Jeffrey Vermette.

CONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CERTIFICATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH A GOAL OF STRENGTHENING MAINE'S TEACHER AND LEADER PATHWAYS TO CERTIFICATION

BACKGROUND: Over recent years, the Certification and Higher Education Committee of the State Board of Education has gathered information and conducted discussions about alternate routes to certification and how Maine might approach amending the State Board rules to further accommodate streamlined alternate routes to educator certification. Department of Education personnel have added valued information to these discussions and kept the Committee informed about nationally recognized research and the efforts of other states in this area. Recently, the Committee has also begun discussions around pathways to preparation and certification of education personnel. We believe that there is a real need for us to recognize that there should be multiple ways beyond the traditional preparation routes for us to place qualified and effective educators in Maine schools and classrooms.

To date the Committee has not reached a point where it was ready to recommend to the Board a plan for changes to both Chapter 115, Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel, and, Chapter 114, Purpose, Standards and Procedures for the Review and Approval of Educational Personnel Preparation Programs. We do recognize that existing language in these rules is very limited and does not provide true, defined pathways (see attached excerpted rule language). We also know through comments and suggestions from the field that there is a need to improve our rules in this area. The will to proceed exists.

The Race To The Top (RTTT) application has reinforced the State Board's effort to revise these rules to include defined pathways for preparation and certification. This opportunity can serve as a catalyst for the Board to expand professional access to the schools and classrooms of our state while focusing the coursework needed to be prepared to be qualified and effective as professional educators.

At the March 29, 2010 meeting of the Certification and Higher Education Committee, a resolution was passed to convey a formal request to the State Board to support the opening of these rules to address the need for multiple pathways to educator preparation and certification. If the Board supports this resolution, the Committee will develop a work plan for Board approval.

RECOMMENDATION: The Certification and Higher Education Committee recommends that the State Board of Education establish and implement a goal of strengthening Maine's pathways to teacher and leader certification, that a plan of action for this work will be developed by the Certification and Higher Education Committee as soon as

possible, and that this work will begin as soon as the Board has approved the plan of action.

MOVED by Jeffrey Vermette, seconded by Nancy Perkins, and unanimously voted by those present to approve that the State Board of Education establish and implement a goal of strengthening Maine's pathways to teacher and leader certification, that a plan of action for this work will be developed by the Certification and Higher Education Committee as soon as possible, and that this work will begin as soon as the Board has approved the plan of action.

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SUBSIDY APPEAL FROM REGIONAL SCHOOL UNIT 57 SUPERINTENDENT FRANK SHERBURNE REGARDING THE STATE FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR 2010/2011.

BACKGROUND: Regional School Unit 57 has requested a subsidy appeal hearing as described in the letter of request attached to this exhibit. The first basis for their request is the significant reduction of state aid using the calculation of the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) formula and their belief that the formula needs to be reviewed. The second basis is their disagreement with their placement on the Labor Market Map.

The Board Chair has consulted with the Board's counsel. In the matter of the first basis of the appeal request, the appeal is not specific enough to appeal cost component calculations. In the matter of the second basis for the appeal request, the statute describes the Labor Market and provides for its review by the Commissioner, the Education Committee and the Legislature. It is not something that we have authority to adjust. Statutory references and the explanation of the processes involved are also attached to this exhibit.

RECOMMENDATION: The Chair recommends that the State Board of Education deny the request of Regional School Unit 57 for a subsidy appeal hearing.

MOVED by James Carignan, seconded by James Banks, Sr., and unanimously voted by those present that this appeal has no standing to be heard and therefore the State Board of Education can not take action on this matter.

NOMINATION AND COMMITTEE:

The Nominating Committee will be convened, and Marilyn Tardy has agreed to serve as chair of the committee with Nancy Perkins and Lynda Doyle serving as members. Nomination Forms for Chair and Vice Chair are due to Marilyn Tardy by Monday, May 3, 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- No Announcements

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- No Public Comment

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Jeffrey Vermette, seconded by James Carignan, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the April 14, 2010, State Board of Education meeting at 3:44 PM.